TWENTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

eing mostly private, are not deemed to be of a sufficient con-equence to entitle them to be noticed in detail.

Of the public bills which have passed within the week, the

Of the public bills which have passed within the work, infollowing appear to be of most interest:

A bill making appropriations for the repair of the custom-house and post-office building at Charleston, South Carolina, and providing furniture and bookcases for the same.

A bill providing for the appointment and regulating the

pay of engineers in the revenue service.

A bill to provide for the payment of the evidences of public f certain Treasury notes which were stolen at New Orlean

and again put into circulation.]

A bill to consolidate and amend the acts in relation to per ions of widows and orphans of certain naval officers. The bill declaring the assent of Congress to the State of Illinois to impose a tax upon all lands hereafter sold by the States in that State, from and after the time of suc

The report of the Committee on Military Affairs recom mending that the bill from the House for reducing the pay of the army and for other purposes be indefinitely postponed, was taken up, and after a brief debate, the recommendation

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

tee was concurred in

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1844. The committee resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriation for the naval service of the United States, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1845.

The state of the question was this:
Mr. PARMENTER had moved an amendment substitut ing specific items of appropriation for the general item in the bill for expenses of the mavy yards.

And Mr. Cave Johnson had moved to amend the

amendment by striking out all appropriations for the navy yard at Washington.

yard at Washington.

The debate was continued by Messrs. SAMPLE and ASHE; after which, Mr. Cave Johnson withdrew his pro-The question then recurring on the amendment of Mr

PARMENTER—
Mr. HUNT, of New York, moved to amend the amend ment by adding thereto the following proviso:

pided. That no more than one half of the moneys appro pri-ted by this set shall be expended in the naval service or drawn from the Treasury previous to the 1st day of January. 1845, excepting the sums appropriated for improvements and necessary repairs of navy yards.

Mr. HUNT, promising to confine himself to the reasons which had induced him to offer this amendment, remarked that by this bill it was proposed to place at the control of the President not only an amount necessary for the support of the navy to the beginning of the next session of Congress, but for five or six months after. The fact had been disclosed ment, without the knowledge or approbation of either branch of Congress, had asumed to itself the power, not given by tion, to enter iuto a warlike offensive attitude to despatch a portion of our navy with orders and instructions which, in a certain contingency, contemplated hostilities with a friendly nation. Whilst this encroachment was made by without rebuke, or at least without any such rebuke as the without reduce, or at least without any acts of the place, un-der existing circumstances, so large a fund for the navy at the disposition of the Executive as this bill proposed. He thought it would be much more appropriate for the House to deliberate upon what concerned their own dignity and the

rights of the people, through their Representatives here, than to place new funds in the hands of the Executive, to continue, the part of the Executive, if it had been made under circumstances of imminent and pressing emergency, and for the interests, the rights, or the honor of this country; but not only had he taken this step during the session of Congress without consultation with them, but it was one to which, if he had consulted Congress, they would have been found emphatically opposed, and entirely averse to any such employment of the country. It is a supply that the constant is a supply to the resolution offered by Mr. Hunt, observed that he had no doubt it was meant to strike concerning the verdict of posterity on the course of the Executive, he could tell the gentleman that its language would be country; but not only had he taken this step during the session of Congress without consultation with them, but it was one to which, if he had consulted Congress, they would have been found emphatically opposed, and entirely averse to any such employment of the Executive, he could tell the gentleman that its language would be country. It is a supply that the course of the Executive, he could tell the gentleman that its language would be could tell the gentleman that its language would be country to the Area that he was far above his denunciations; the world in regard to the Secretary of State, he would say to that gentleman that he was far above his denunciations; the world in regard to the Secretary of State, he would say to that gentleman that its language would be country. they would have been found emphatically opposed, and en-tirely averse to any such employment of the forces of the country. It was an object which, so far from being desired by the people of this country at the expense of a war, ity of them, it would be found, we their consent to it, even if it could be accomplished by peace

It was not Mr. H.'s purpose to enter into a general discussion of the annexation of Texas, or of any other question connected therewith; that subject was now before the branch of Congress where it properly belonged under the treaty-making power; but he wished to notice one or two of the s assumed by the gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Holmes.) He referred to one of those positions, which d extraordinary, that it was the duty he considered extraordinary, that it was the duty of this Government to adopt this measure of annexation for the protection of the South and of Southern institutions. Mr. H. aid he was one of those who viewed with no favor, but with disapprobation, the proceedings of the abolitionists; that he desired to see this Union perpetuated; to see the Constitudesired to see this Union perpetuated; to see the Constitu-tion preserved as it is; that he was as ready as any manwhere constitutional obligations required, to maintain the South and Southern institutions; but he contended that this Government was under no constitutional obligation, either in letter or in spirit, to maintain any interest of this Confed eracy, and particularly one belonging peculiarly to a certain portion of the country, by the extension of our boundaries.

He scouted the idea advanced by Mr. Holmes, that annexation was necessary in a military point of view, as a measure of defence against a foreign foe; and he argued that, if our infant colonies had been able to resist succes fully the usurpations and oppressions of the mother country, and establish an independent Government, now, with a pop ulation of twenty millions, and with the great development of our resources and our vastly increased power, we were able, without an extension of our boundaries, with a just and

able, without an extension of our boundaries, with a righteous cause, to dely the world in arms.

Instead of facilitating the onward progress of Executive usurpation, by placing at his disposal—perhaps all of it to be expended before the next session of Congress—five or six onded before the next session of Congress—five or six ones of dollars, Mr. H. wished rather to place such obstapower to plunge this country into a war, or to carry it on without the approlation and consent of the people, expressed through their Representatives. He thought it a most por-tentous and alarming precedent, and if it was suffered to pass tenous and alarming precedent, and if it was suffered to pass without rebuke or censure, in some period of the future history of our country, when a man of iron nerve, backed by a powerful party, was at the head of our Government, it might lead to the subversion of the very form of our Government. If the Representatives were to be deprived of that control which the Constitution gave them of the inception of measures which might involve the country in war, there was very little occasion for the people to send their Representatives of nations to be incorporated into the Union.

In conclusion, Mr. H. remarked that his object in offering this amendment was to place the restrictions which he had mentioned around the Executive in the disposal of this mo-

mentioned around the Executive in the disposal of this money, and not from any desire to cripple the navy. He would be the last to detract from the distinguished honors which it had so meritedly won, or to weaken it in any manner; on the contrary, he wished to see it maintained on a footing of respectability and efficiency.

Mr. ATKINSON adverted to the irrelevancy of the discussion, and to the reluctance which he felt in rising to participate in it under the circumstances; but, he said, in justice to his country, to those institutions which he loved better than himself, he could not keep his seat when a proposition so monstrous as that of the gentleman from New York was made. The amendment of the gentleman proposed to prevent the Executive from disbursing the appropriations according to the necessity of the Government. Whence that suspicion? Upon what evidence did the gentleman rely? Did he believe that the Executive of this country meant to employ the funds at his command to involve the country in a war? Or was it intended to withhold the money from the naval service until another great chieftain should come in?

tended so to apply the appropriations as to involve the country in a war, said he did think there was good reason, and

protect Texas in case it should be assailed had been an improper one. He had the right, not to declare war, but so to dispose the navy and army of the United States as to guard against the attacks of a foreign foe. He was willing to pass no censure upon Mr. Tyler, but to reject the amendment of the gentleman from New York, and to leave the President, ledge Texas to be absolved from his tyrannical rule? Away is other Presidents were left, to dispose of the public money under his responsibility to the laws and to the Constitution.

nimated speech in favor of the annexation of Texas.

Mr. MORSE said he should not follow the example which had been set by the gentleman from Indiana and going into a discussion of the annexation of Texas. He devised gentlemen to restrain their ardor, at least till that uestion should have been settled at the other end of the capitol. Mr. M. called back the House to the point whence it had started on the Texas chase, and referred to the remarks of Mr. Atkinson on Mr. Hunt's amendment. He had listened with the utmost surprise to those remarks, and was still more amazed that they had been suffered to pass without rebuke, and with no expression of that indignation they me-ited. That gentleman had attempted to defend the conduct of the Executive in ordering our navy into a foreign port to of the Executive in ordering our navy into a foreign port to watch—what? Our commerce? No; but the movements of the Mexican Government in relation to Texas—a Government with whom we were at profound peace! Was this conduct to be sanctioned by an independent House of Representatives? And were they to sit tamely by and see our army sent to a sickly region and ordered to put itself in communication with the President of Texas? Mr. M. had listentially the second of the second o tened with much satisfaction to the language of the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. Halk) on this subject yesterday, and his only regret had been that the gentleman did not go further. The Executive had taken the war-power into his own hands, and had done it in the face of warning from the Mexican Minister that the annexation of Texas would be considered by that Government as a declaration of war. Mr M. had expected to hear a stern rebuke administered to suc presumption, if not a proposition to institute articles of im-peachment. In the earlier days of this Republic would such

course have elicited no animadversion from this House?

The gentleman from Virginia had told the House that he lefended Mr. Tyler because he was the President; but Mr. M. had no such squeamishness: he never would sit quietly and see a man trample on the liberties of his country because he held the highest office in its gift. It had been said that Mr. Tyler had only carried out the doctrines long sinc avowed by him: but the truth was he was much like Joh Holmes's speckled pig, now here, now there, and squirme about so that it was hard telling where he was. It was sai he never had tampered with members of Congress: Mr. M did not know how that might be, but he was tampering with the people to try and get himself made President. Mr. M here referred to passages in the correspondence of the Secre tary of State accompanying the Texas treaty, in which the President disclaimed "any sinister measures" or any "in trigue" on the part of this Government to obtain the assen Texas to the project of annexation, and considered it a an admission that every thing short of such a course had been done. If there was nothing wrong, why such strict concesiment? Why abstain from all consultation with the houn's inferences from the consus returns, and the refusal c Congress to have the errors of that census investigated. S egregiously erroneous was it that where the returns stated that there were thirty-eight insane people of color in one of the towns, there were in fact but fourteen colored persons of the towns, there were in fact but fourteen colored persons of any kind in the whole town. Mr. M. would not enter int any commentaries on the course of Mr. Tyler: it was enough to say that it had been such as to leave him without a party in either House of Congress. The only notice which history would record of him was like that which

preserved of the burner of the Ephesian dome.

Mr. BELSER having read the resolution offered by Mr.

HUNT, observed that he had no doubt it was meant to strike had fixed the character of that illustrious man, nor could the ephemeral efforts of politicians in the least affect it. The speech of a distinguished Senator (Mr. Benton) had been referred to; but he could tell the gentleman that that speech never would receive the sanction of this country, nor could it he retained to the least of politicians.

sians or not; the true and only question was whether Texas had been acquired by conquest? If it had, then its Government and people had a right to treat it away, and we had the same right to receive it when ceded.

On this question of annexation there were in the count four distinct parties. At the head of one was Mr. Birney, who, with his companions, maintained that we had no con-stitutional power to annex territory, and that if we had, it was inexpedient. This same party held that the moment the United States received either Louisiana or this district, slavery ceased de jure in the United States. To this party belonged the rabid abolitionists.

onged the rabid abolitionists.

A second party were in favor of two independent Repub lics—a Canadian and a Texian—and that the annexation Texas would be a violation of solemn treaty obligations. A third party made a distinction between Governments

fucto and Governments de jure. They admitted the power of annexation, but held that we could not annex under our treaty with Mexico, unless to prevent immediate interference part of Great Britain. A fourth party-who was at the head of it he would not say, nor did not care, whether the President, or the Secretary

State, or General Jackson-maintained that this was the golden moment to secure the union of Texas with these States: that the annexation was sanctioned by the law of maions and by the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. B. next went into a summary recapitulation of the successive epochs in the history of Texas and her connexion

with Mexico, bringing it down to the battle of San Jacinto, from which time Texas had maintained a constitution

He then laid down this proposition : that whenever any people had the acknowledged right to enter into treaties of indary and treaties of commerce, they had a Government fure. In 1838 we had acknowledged the independence of Texas, and we had entered with her into a treaty of bounds ry and of indemnity: if she had no Government de jure, how could we settle a boundary line? In 1839 France acknowledged her independence, and in 1840 Great Britain and Belgium had done the same, and Great Britain made a

After scouting the idea that Texian independence was ne ver to be considered as established until the tyrant Santa Anna should be pleased to acknowledge it, he went on

war? Or was it intended to withhold the money from the naval service until another great chieftain should come in?

Mr. HUNT interposed, and (Mr. A. yielding the floor) interposed, and (Mr. A. yielding the floor) to the inquiry whether he believed the Executive interpolations as to another the appropriations as to involve the court.

tended so to apply the appropriations as to involve the country in a war, said he did think there was good reason, and for one he did believe it.

Mr. ATKINSON continued. He did not stand here, he said, for the purpose of vindicating the President any further than as the Executive officer of this Republic; but although Mr. A. had had no hand in elevating him to this high station, he would defend him when improperly assailed by those who had placed him there. It had been "honest John Tyler," of Virginis, during the canvass, and until the veto had been brought into play, but when he had carried out those principles for which he had battled with his enemies upon this floor and elsewhere, he had been denounced by the same party, and now the gentleman from New York was not will-

him with the expenditures of the public money of its arches, and it was folly to talk of weakening our Gov- | The SPEAKER. The motion can only be entertain under the existing laws, as all other Presidents were trusted. ernment by extending our territory. Extension was calculated to destroy centralization, which was the danger we had

FIRST SESSION.

Since Mr. A. had been a member of this House he had seen no disposition on the part of the Executive to interfere with the rights of this House or to operate upon its members. He would not discuss the question of Texas; if he were, he should be found in favor of it, and in this neration of Texas to the United States. On account of its time being thus occupied, very little legislative business necessary to be noticed in this paper has been transacted by this shranch of Congress.

The first hour of meeting on each day has, as usual, been devoted to what is called the morning business, viz. the reception of petitions and memorials, of which many have been presented—the most of those which are of a public nature being either for or against the annexation of Texas, or against any alteration in the tariff set of 1842.

Besides this description of business, the Senate has also taken opportunity during the morning hour to dispose of a number of bills which did not elicit debate. These, however, be should presented every finding it out, and their voices would ere this question would give us composed, one-half of this appropriation until 1845, was it not to require the appropriation of petitions and memorials, of which many have been presented—the most of those which are of a public nature being either for or against the annexation of Texas, or against the annexation of the United States in case it should be assented had enough of extra session of the first of the greatest emergency. He was a proportion of the secondary of refugees and cut-throats that infested some parts of the country. It would give us the command, too, of the Indian tribes, and thus aid us in the great duty of self-preservation. We had proclaimed our country to the world as a refuge of the first of the greatest emergency. He was the annexation whole destroy centralization, which was the danger who had most to apprehend.

Mr. B. then went into destroy open the most of the States also. The manufactor of the States also. The manufactor of

ledge Texas to be absolved from his tyrannical rule? Away withthe thought. No. Mr. B. looke! for the day when our sacred national banner should float over Oregon, over California, and over Texas too; and when other nations, witnessing our prosperity, should hasten to cover themselve with its folds, acknowledging that they had caught the firs orwarding the radiant beams till they should have en

ed the remotest ends of the earth.

Mr. GIDDINGS addressed the committee, generally, Mr. GIDDINGS addressed the community, sometimes of the subject of the annexation of Texas, and urgently against the subject of the annexation of Texas, and urgently against the subject of the annexation of the subject of the subjec that measure, as well on constitutional as other grounds. He submitted that the issue was distinctly and officially made up, by that project, of the extension and perpetuation of slavery and the slave trade.

Mr. CAUSIN followed in a few remarks, (elicited by the

rgument of Mr. Gibbines,) not directed to the question of annexation, nor to the bill before the committee, but to the ne cessity of the passage of laws on the part of Congress to enforce the constitutional guaranties of slave property, as asked for by recent resolutions of the State of Maryland.

The committee rose and reported progress.

A resolution was adopted, on motion of Mr. McKAY, (and under the operation of the previous question,) term nating the debate on the navy bill to morrow at 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1844.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. CAVE JOHNSON, of Tennessee, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriation for the naval service of the United States for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1845.

The debate (confined, however, within the ligitimate ob-jects of the bill) was resumed and continued to the hour of

bree o'clock, when The committee, according to order, proceeded to vote of the amendments to the bill.

The question first recurring on Mr. Hunr's amendment the amendment of Mr. Parmenter, as given above—
It was decided in the affirmative—Ayes 62, noes 61. The question next recurred on Mr. PARMENTER's ame

ent as thus amended, and it was agreed to. Mr. LEVY offered an amendment providing that the pro-cessls for different articles of supply at the various navastations should be advertised for separately, &c. Rejected.

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON offered an amendment providing hat hereafter no vessel shall be built or rebuilt except by exress authority of Congress. Agreed to.

Mr. LEVY offered a proviso prohibiting the application

money to the payment of any agents or officers not exressly authorized by law. Agreed to.

An amendment moved by Mr. PARMENTER making pecific the general appropriation for the Hydrographic de

artment was agreed to.

Mr. MURPHY moved to amend the bill (in that par thich makes appropriations for the Brooklyn navy yard) so to provide that an unexpended balance of appropriation or that yard shall be expended in the continua

Mr. PHŒNIX sent to the Clerk's table an amende uthorizing unexpended balances to be applied to the contraction of such a dry-dock at the said yard as the Secre ary of the Navy might select. Agreed to.

Mr. LEVY offered an amendment providing that the un

expended balances of appropriations for the Pensacola navy and shall be expended in the construction of such a dry ock as the Secretary of the Navy direct, &c. ; [i. e. a pro vision similar to that adopted as to Brooklyn.] Agreed to.

The committee rose and reported progress, and The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1844. Mr. COBB rose and saked leave to present the proceedings of a meeting of citizens of Georgia on the subject of the sunexation of Texas. [These are the same proceedings which Mr. Coss had endeavored to introduce on a former day, but the presentation of which had been objected to because accompanied by a mount to print.]

The SPEAKER said that the first business in order was a

otion submitted by the gentleman from Tennessee solution (in reference to a pension.)

Mr. COBB trusted that no objection would be made.

And he moved that the resolutions be laid on the table Mr. WHITE said he would not object to the reception of he resolutions if the printing was not asked. It was proper hat the resolutions should be received and laid on the table,

out he must object to the printing.

Mr. COBB moved that the rules of the House be suspend-Mr. WHITE asked the yeas and nays; and the vote re

YEAS -Messrs. Arrington, Atkinson, Bayly, Pidlack, Edward J. Black, James Black, James A. Black Blackwell, Bower, William J. Brown, Burke, Burt, Caldwell, Shepherd Cary, Reuben Chapman, A. Chapman, Clinch, Clinton, Cobb, Cullom, Driniel, John W. Davis, Dellet, Dromgoole, E'mer. Parlee, Foser, Goggin, Hammet, Hiralson, Hays, Holmes, Hoge, Houston, Hughes, Jas. B. Hunt, Charles J. Ingersoll, Jameson, Andrew Hughes, Jas. B. Hunt, Charles J Ingersoll, Jameson, Andrew Johnson, George W Jones, Kirkpatrick, Lisbranche, Leonard, Lucas, Lumpkin McCauslen, McClelland, McClernand, McConsell, McDowell, Murphy, Newton, Norris, Emery D. Potter, Divid S. Reid, Relie, Roberts, Russell, Saunders, Sidell, John F Smith, Thomas Smith, Robert Smith, Steenrod, Stephens, Sides, Stone, Taylor, Thompson, Tibbatts, Tucker, Weatworth, Woodword, J. A. Wright, Yost—75.

NAYS—Messrs Abbott, Adams, Anderson, Baker, Barringer, Consend Markey Milton Brown.

Barnard, Benton, Brengle, Brinkerhoff, Brodhead, Milton Brown Jeremiah Brown, Buffington, Carroll, Catlin Causin, Clingman Collamer, Cranston, Dana, Darragh, Garret Davis, Bichard D Davis, Dean, Deberry, Dickey, Dickinson, Dillingham, Dunlap Ellia, Plorence, Poot, Giddings, Willis Green, Byram Green Grider, Hale, Hamlin, Hardin, Harper, Herrick, Habbell, W iant, Joseph R. Ingersoll, Irvin, Jenks, Cave Johnson, Perley Johnson, John P. Kennedy, Preston King, Daniel P. King Iselay, McIlvaine, McKry, Marsh, Edward Joy Morris, Morse Joseley, Nes, Parmenter, Phanik, Pollock, Elisha R. Potter Moneley, Nes, Parmenter, Phusaix, Pollock, Editha & Potter, Petton, Pardy, Ramsey, Charles M. Reed, Reding, Ritter, Robinson, Rockwell, Rolney, Rogers, St. John, Sample, Schenck, Sonier, Severance, Thomas H. Seymour, David I. Seymour, Simons, Albert Smith, Caleb B. Smith, Stetson, Andrew Stewart, John Stewart, Strong, Summers, Thomasson, Tiden, Tyler, Vance, Vanmeter, Vinton, White, Williams, Winthrop, William Wright—99.

So the rules were not suspended, and the resolution

NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Daussgoole, of Virginia, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the naval service of the United States the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1845.

Mr. G. DAVIS moved an amendment appropriating \$50,000 for the purchase of American water-rotted hemp for the use of the navy, &c. Agreed to. Mr. HALE renewed the amendment (heretofore offered by nim, but temporarily withdrawn) providing that officers per-forming duties of a higher grade should not receive higher

pay. Agreed to.
Mr. KING, of Massachusetts, offered an amendment pronibiting spirit rations, and providing an equivalent in money.

Mr. HALE offered an amendment abolishing corporal pun ishment in the navy and marine corps.

Mr. SCHENCK moved to amend the amendment by adding, that no order to shorten sail in case of a storm should e considered obligatory without the previous vote of

ority of the ship's company.

The amendment to the amendment was rejected. And, by ayes 67, noes 63, the amendme vas agreed to. The committee then rose and reported the bill and ame

THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT. The House passed to the disposition of bills on the Speak-

reported, with an amendment from the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1845. This bill was passed, the appropriation for Post Office agents having been first restored to priation for Post Office agents having been first restored to the bill, in consequence of the refusal of the House to adopt the amendment made in committee which struck it out. And the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1844. Mr. LABRANCHE asked leave to present the proceedings of a general meeting of citizens of New Orleans in favor of the re-annexation of Texas.

red to a select committee of five members; and on this mo-tion he demanded the previous question.

Mr. PARMENTER thereupon moved that the resolution

be laid on the table.

Mr. BLACK, of Georgia, called for the reading of th

Mr. ELMER objected to the reading. The SPEAKER put the question on the reading of the seolutions, and the House decided that they should not be

MENTER to lay the resolutions on the table.

Mr. HOUSTON appealed to Mr. LABRANCHE to let the

resolutions take the direction which similar papers had taken, and be laid on the table. There would be no objection to Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL. If it is in order, I move the there be a call of the House. The House is not full; my object is that it should be so, in order that we may have the

fair sense of the House on this subject.

And on this motion he demanded the yeas and nays and the question thereon being taken, the vote stood So a call of the House was refused.

The question then again recurring on the motion of Mr.

PARMENTER that the resolutions be laid on the table—

Mr. WHITE asked the yeas and nays, which were order d; and, being taken, resulted as follows:

Mr. WHITE asked the yeas and nays, which were ordered; and, being taken, resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Abbott, Adams, Anderson, Baker, Borringer, Benton, Brengle, Beinkerhoff, Brodhead, Milton Brown, Jeremi ah Brown, J. E. Cary, Carroll, Causin, Clinch, Clingman, Collamer, Cranston, Done, Darragh, Garrett Davis, R. D. Davis, Dean, Deberry, Deliet, Dickey, Dunlap, Ellis, Elmer, Farlee, Fish, Plorence, Poot, Poster, Giddings, Goggin, Willis Green, Byram Green, Grider, Hale, Hamilin, Hardin, Harper, Herrick Hobbell, Hudson, Hungerford, W. Hunt, Irvin, Jenks, Cave Johnson, P. B. Johnson, Preston King, D. P. King, Leonard, Maclay, Mclivaine, Marsh, Edw. Jey Morris, Morse, Mosely, Nes, Newbon, Parmenter, Paterson, Peyton, Phonix, Pollock, Elisha R. Potter, Preston, Purdy, Ramsey, Rathbun, Charles M. Reed, Reding, Robinson, Rockwell, Rodney, Rogers, St. John, Sample, Schenck, Senter, Severance, Thomas H. Seymour, David L. Seymour, Albert Smith, Caleb B. Smith, Stephens, Stetson, Andrew Stewart, John Stewart, Strong, Summers, Sykes, Thomasson, Tyler, Vance, Vih.t. n, Wethered, White, Williame, Winthrop—103.

NAYS—Messer, Arrington, Atkinson, Bidlack, Edw. J. Black, James A. Black, Blackwell, Bowlin, Boyd, William J. Brown, Burke, Burt, Caldwell, Campbell, Shepherd Cary, Reuben Chapman, Augustus A. Chapman, Clinton, Cobb, Coles, Gross, Cullon, Daniel, John W. Davis, Dawson, Douglass, Dromgoole, Duncan, Picklin, Prench, Hammet, Harslson, Hays, Henley, Holmes, Hoge, Houston, Hughes, James B. Hunt, Charles J. Ingersoll, Juneson, George W. Jones, Andrew Kennedy, Kirkpatrick, L. branche, Lucas, Lumpkin, McCauslen, McCleiland, McCleirand, McConnell, McDowell, McKay, Mathews, Murphy, Norris, Owen, Emery D. Potter, David S. Reid, Reife, Ritter, Sauders, Simons, Simpson, Sidell, Thomas Smith, Robert Smith, Steenrod, Stiles, Stone, Taylor, Thomps an, Tibbatts, Tucker, Weller Wentworth, Woodward, Joseph A. Wright, Yost—78.

So the resolutions were laid on the table.

FOR OREGON-HO! FOR OREGON—HO!

Mr. DUNCAN moved that the House resolve itself int.

Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, [with:
view, should that motion prevail, to move to take up the bil
extending the jurisdiction of the United States over the Territory of Oregon,
And on this motion Mr. D. demanded the yeas and nave which were ordered; and, on being taken, were: Yeas 85,

The SPEAKER proceeded to call the committees for ports, and a number were presented

PENSION LAWS. Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL, the rules being suspended the purpose, introduced, in pursuance of previous notice, bill to alter and amend the pension laws of the United State The bill having been read twice by its title, was re-

through.

And Mr. I. asked that it be put on its third reading. Mr. CAVE JOHNSON moved its reference to the Cor

Mr. SEYMOUR. To the Committee of the Whole the state of the Union.

Which last-mentioned motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. SEYMOUR, the House reso

(Mr. White of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. White, of Kentucky, in the chair.)

The Committee took up the bill to amend an act entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows," and the several acts and resolutions amendatory of the same, and to extend and continue the provisions thereof.

Mr. PARMENTER said, as he understood the ger principle upon which this system of appropriations to widow was founded, it was that it was not in the nature of an ord nary pension, but in consequence of the soldiers of the Revo-lution having been inadequately paid, and having been in

depreciated currency. In this view of the sub the time of the marriage. Why limit it to 1794 or to 1800 If it was just at all to pay the pension upon this principle, appeared to him that it should go to all widows. He there fore moved to strike out all of the bill that related to the limit Mr. ADAMS said it had been his intention to move the

sions to five years. This period of five years had already once or twice expired, and at the termination of the term the widows for whose benefit the act had passed were always in a state needing the continuance of the provision more than a the time when the law was at first enacted. Why the limihe did not know, unless it was merely for the purpose of savhe did not know, unless it was merely for the purpose of sav-ing money. These were poor destitute widows, widows of some of the most meritorious citizens of the country, who had established its independence at the expense of their lives and blood, and was there any reason worthy of this great na-tion why this limitation of time during which they were paid should be extended to them? He was perfectly satisfied if they made this limitation of five years now, at the end of five years they would have the application. five years they would have the application again, and they would be obliged, from a sense of justice and humanity, to repeat the act as often as they were called upon to do it. Mr. A. cencluded by moving to strike out the limitation of five years, [so that the pensioners should continue to re-

ceive pay during their lifetimes.]

Mr. SEYMOUR, of New York, said he did not know th reason which had influenced the committee in restricting the operation of this law. He could see no good reason for it. Why was it that the widow of a Revolutionary soldier, in o der to be entitled to a pension, should show proof of mar riage prior to 1st January, 1794? His attention had beer called to several cases which had come under his own obser widows who had been married after 1784 to Revo lutionary soldiers, some of which soldiers had served during long period of the war, had suffered all its privations, a come out of the war poor. There was the same reason that those who had married subsequently to 1794 should receive the same benefit, the same generosity, the same justice, s those who married previous to that time: it was due on eve ry principle of honor and of justice that they should receive the same. It was his wish that these appropriations, or that the law granting these appropriations, should receive a per-manent character, and that those persons should feel that their

country had provided for them. country had provided for them.

Some further discussion followed, in which Messrs. RATH
BUN, ELMER, HAMLIN, VANCE, ADAMS, STRONG SEYMOUR, of New York, RODNEY, PARMENTER CALDWELL, POLLOCK, HALE, and FISH participated The amendment to the amendment and the amendment were adopted, modified in such form (as far as the Reporte understood or could infer from the verbal intricacies in whic the subject was involved) as to provide for the payment, afte the passage of this act, to the widows of Revolutionary sol diers during life, without reference to their time of marriage.

A great number of amendments were offered by Messri FISH, HALE, THOMPSON, RATHBUN, SAMPLE HAMLIN, HUNGERFORD, and COLLAMER. Mr. G. DAVIS moved to amend the bill so as to exter the operation of the Revolutionary pension laws to officer and soldiers who served in Indian wars prior to the treaty of of Grenville, under the authority of the United States, as

This amendm WELLER, CALDWELL, HAMLIN, SIMONS, and DARRAGH. Mr. BOWLIN obtained the floor, but yielded on appeal

or this purpose to
Mr. DICKINSON, who moved that the committee rise. The motion being agreed to, the committee rose and r

orted progress.

And then the House adjourned.

Georgia, last Saturday evening, is pronounced by the Chronicle of that place to have been a " decided failure." That paper says of it: "There were not at any time during the meeting (from the pelled to steer his vessel to every point of the compass. best information we could obtain from gentlemen present who counted the assembled multitude) exceeding one hundred vo-

ters, several of whom were led there from curiosity, and these dwindled down to seventy when a division was called for and a count had, just before the meeting closed its labors. When we reflect, therefore, that this meeting was called a week previous, and every effort made which the press could make to draw out a large number of the citizens of a county which polls upwards of twelve hundsed votes, it cannot be regarded otherwise than a most signal failure."

Antital Table All Land Walking in the woods at the Cape one day, when he came suddenly upon a huge shaggy lion. "Thinking to frighten him," said the noble lord, "I,ran at him with all my might." "Whereupon," said another, interrupting, "he ran away with all his mane." "Just so," said his lordship.—London paper.

MOTORINGAW

" LIBERTY AND UNION, NOW AND FOREVER, ONE AND INSEPARABLE."

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1844.

The SENATE, on Monday last, removed the injunction of secrecy from all Speeches delivered by Senators on the Texas treaty. Mr. BENTON, it appears, opened the debate in a speech against the Treaty, which occupied three days in the delivery, viz. May 16th, 18th, and 20th, the first part of which, being already written out, was published in the Globe the night of the 20th. He was followed in debate, on Tuesday, by Mr. WALKER.

Mr. Benton's speech is said to have been or of great ability. The main ground of his argument against the Treaty was, that the ratification of it would be the adoption by the United States of the existing war between Mexico and Texas, and would devolve the conduct and conclusion of that war on the United States; denying, at the same time, the right of the President and Senate to make war under pretence and cover of making treaties. It will not be in our power to publish this speech in its full extent; but we shall take care to put our readers in possession of such an abstract of it as shall embrace all its essential

It is understood that, in closed doors, each day since the conclusion of Mr. Benton's Speech, from the hour of one o'clock to the hour of adjournment. has been employed in a continuation of the debate, which is said to be conducted with great decorum as well as ability on both sides, and listened to with unusual seriousness and earnestness of attention. On Tuesday, Mr. WALKER addressed the Senate in favor of the Treaty; on Wednesday Mr. CHOATE against it; on Thursday Mr. McDuffte in favor of it; and yesterday Mr. MILLER against it; when further discussion of the subject was postponed to Thursday next, (in consequence, probably, of the desire of some of the Members to be present at the Convention at Baltimore on Monday.)

The votes in the House of Representatives vesterday indicate a sound state of opinion in that body on both the Texas and Oregon questions. There is little chance (using the phrase in its colloquial sense) of a vote passing even the House of Representatives for violating an existing treaty with one nation, by seizure of territory in the South, or abrogating existing treaty stipulations with another, to force unseasonably the natural tendency of things in the Northwest. With regard to the Texas question, indeed, we are not sure that the feeling against the recent action of the Executive in the matter of Texas is not as strong, if not stronger, among a portion of the "Democratic" Members of Congress than among their opponents. In evidence of which we take the following extract from the Washington Correspondence of the New York (Democratic) Evening Post:

"WASHINGTON, MAY 19, 1844. "I have never known a state of such intense feeling as appears now to exist here. There really seems to have arrived a crisis in our national affairs. No one now entertains doubt of the intentions of the Executive to commence a dis graceful war with Mexico, or, what is the same thing, to take forcible possession of the province of Texas, the momen Congress adjourns. The man deserves impeachment, and against him in the House, and sent up to the Senate for that purpose. But the attempt to do so would be perfectly futile. There are other means of preventing this foul dishonor being brought upon the nation. Impeachment and removal from office are not the only modes of proceeding designated, or alent which his colleague had proposed, and one rights of the people, when in danger of utter subversion by the executive and military power. The military and the revenues of the country may be taken from under his control. At least the latter may, and the former may be rendered powerless in his hands. I do not hesitate to say that this should be done, and that immediately."

> Several additional Letters from leading citizens n favor of "Immediate Annexation," of "Texas now or never," &c. &c. have appeared within the last few days, among which are Letters from Dixon H LEWIS of Alabama, ANDREW STEVENSON of Virginia, GEORGE M. BIBB of Kentucky, and (the second or third from) ANDREW JACKSON of Ten-

We have the pleasure to present to our readers to-day one Letter against the "Annexation" as now proposed, which, for practical views and sound judgment, is worth a dozen such letters as some that we have seen in favor of it. We refer to the Letter of the Hon. Senator BARROW, which to the 25th and from Vera Cruz to the 30th ultimo, appears on the preceding page.

The following, from the Madisonian of last even ing, is the latest direct information that we have of the views and intentions of the Administration in the critical position into which its unauthorized measures have thrown the country:

"P. S. We can (from what we have just learned) say to the friends of immediate annexation, be of good cheer. The English and Abolition party will yet be defeated. Texas will be annexed the United States before the adjournment of the present session of Congress. It is said there is no hope that two-thirds of the Senate will vote for the Treaty, and therefore it will be rejected by that patriotic body. But Texas can be annexed by ioint resolution of the two Houses; and who can for a moment doubt but that OLD VETO (if permitted by you) will be found faithful to the end? "Immediately upon the rejection of the Treaty, the President will unquestionably (we think) call upon Congress to annex Texas by joint resolution."-Madisonian.

THE SINUOSITIES OF MODERN DEMOCRACY The following paragraphs, from the Savannah Republican, express but one of the many difficulties which the Whigs are subjected to in looking after, in order to repel, the attacks of their adversaries

"A few days since we found it necessary to contradict the story, which some of our opponents were endeavoring to set affoat in this city, that Mr. Frelinghuysen was an abolition-ist. Little did we suppose that at the same moment the Northern Democracy would have in circulation flatly contraof "annexation" endeavored to get up at Augusta, and equally intended to affect the character of one of the purest and most patriotic of American citizens.

"Between this city and Charleston, by the inland passage there is a channel so crooked, that for four times successively, each in the space of a single square mile, the pilot is o out readers smooth desired the second only take a short-trip up to our neighboring city, during which the Kinderhook policy

MIGHT AND MAIN. - Lord Charles Somerset was telling

LATE FROM TEXAS.

By way of New Orleans we have accounts from Galveston to the 11th instant.

The U. S. frigate Potomac, Comm. Conner, was off Galveston on the 10th instant. One of her launches was sent ashore, but with what object could not be learned.

President Houston arrived in Galveston on the 11th—the papers do not say for what purpose.

The U. S. schooner Flirt, Captain Davis, and evenue cutter Vigilant, Captain TAYLOR, were also at Galveston. [What are the U. S. revenue cutters doing at Gableston ?]

The " News" of the 7th announces the arrival at the same place of the U.S. steamer Poinsett, Captain SEMMES, from Pensacola, which put into Galveston for fuel, and was to leave for Vera Cruz that day. She had on board as passenger Mr. Thompson, the alleged Confidential Agent of this Government to that of the Republic of Mexico.

The Galveston News of the 30th ultimo has the following paragraph respecting the Treaty of Annexation:

"General Houston, we learn, is highly pleased with the treaty, and speaks in very flattering terms of the magnanimity displayed by the United States. Government in the terms submitted in the treaty. This we consider as exceedingly propitious to the project, as heretofore apprehensions have been entertained that difficulties would have arisen in the adjustment of terms."

The Galveston Civilian of the 1st instant professes to possess a pretty correct knowledge of the nature of the recent advices received by the Government of Texas from the United States. That paper says: "Our Ministers are not sanguine of the ratification of the Senate, though President TYLER and Mr. CALHOUN appear to be so." It then goes on to make the following statements. which corroborate the information heretofore received that the recent naval and military movements towards Texas, directed by the President of the United States, were in fulfilment of conditions required by Texas before she would consent to negotiate for annexation:

" The United States Government, we understand, at length, though reluctantly, complied with all THE CONDITIONS REQUIRED BY THAT OF TEXAS, PRELIMINARY TO ENTERING INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR ANNEXATION. The headquarters of Gen. Gaines are to be made at Fort Jesup, on the frontier of Texas, where three regiments of infantry and the 2d regiment of dragoons are to be stationed, and the remaining disposable force under his command is to be distributed at various points along the line, while a fleet of ten sail is to occupy the Gulf; and notice is to be given to Mexico that any demonstration against Texas during the pendency of negotiations will be considered as against the United States, and treated accordingly. This is very pleasant while it lasts, as the Scotchman said when midway on his fall from the fourteen-story house; but how long it is to last, and what is to be the result, we are not prepared to predict."

The Civilian publishes a copy of the Commander-in-chief's order, dated April 11th, directing the 3d regiment of infantry, then at Jefferson Barracks, proceed to Fort Jesup, and says that it "manifests a readiness on the part of the United States Government to comply with what are understood to be OBLIGATIONS RECENTLY ENTERED INTO WITH THIS COUNTRY."

The Civilian furnishes the following information relative to the special mission to Mexico recently despatched from Washington:

" It is stated that Mr. THOMPSON, who has gone to Mexico in the steamer Poinsett, is charged with important negotiations from the United States. Two millions of the indemnity due and acknowledged to the United States remain untice of which is said to be undoubted, remain unadjusted, for the payment of all of which, in some way, the American Government is said to be unwilling longer to wait, as justice to her citizens has long since demanded that they should be satisfied. It is reported that the United States Government is no longer willing to admit the claim of Mexico to Texas, yet a very liberal allowance (to be paid by the assumption on the part of the United States of debts due her citizens by Mexico) would be made for the relinquishment by Mexico of her title to the territory in dispute between her and Texas, including all ever claimed by this

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

An arrival at Savannah on the 15th instant has he Editors of the Republican have received Havana

papers one day later than those noticed in our last. Among them is the Diario de la Marino of the 8th instant, containing dates from the city of Mexico which were brought to Havana by the British mail

steamer Teviot. From an article in the Diario, it appears that at ust about the same time the "Treaty of Annexaion was signed in this city, the Diario del Gobierto de Mejico remarked as follows: "What the Hesperia and the Correo Frances of to-day say in regard to the annexation of Texas to the United States cannot be true, and we have reasons for believing it not so. Our Government has received its official correspondence from Washington, the contents of which is just the contrary of what these papers say. But be it as it may, our Government is determined not to lose the usurped territory, and to that end she will use her best efforts to recover it, that the honor and dignity and good name of the nation shall not suffer.

In addition to the above the Republican learns rom a passenger, who left the city of Mexico on the 26th of April and Vera Cruz on the 2d of May. "that the question of annexation was somewhat talked of in both of those cities. No definite information on the subject of the treaty seemed to be had; but there was a very general indignation felt and expressed against any movement on the part of the United States tending to deprive the Mexican Government of her supposed rights in regard to the territory of Texas. The most determined hostility to the movement evidently existed, and it was apparent, that it would be resisted to the last extremity."

RELEASE OF CANADIAN PRISONERS -Official inormation has been received at the Department of State that, at the instance of Mr. EVERETT, our Minister in London, the following persons, who took part in the disturbances in Canada in the year 1838, have been pardoned, and will shortly return from Van Dieman's Land : Hiram Sharp, John Gillman, Ira Polly, Orrin W. Smith, Bemis Woodbury, Geo. T. Brown, Daniel Liskum, Robert Q. Collins, John Thomas, and Edward A. Wilson.

Howard College, at Marion, in Alabama, was entirely consumed by fire on the 10th instant, together with a portion of its contents. The College was a Baptist institution.